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ANNUAL REPORT  
FLORIDA PARK SERVICE  
1950-1951

FLORIDA BOARD OF PARKS AND HISTORIC MEMORIALS

Lewis G. Scoggin  
Director

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## FOREWORD

It gives me pleasure to present the second Annual report of operation of Florida Park Service under the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951.

Florida continued to maintain its respected position among the States operating state park systems and held to a policy of the highest possible service to the citizens and visitors within available means. We did not realize our ambition to get a Capital improvement program financed and started because of legal restrictions but many improvements were made with the limited funds available.

The 1950-51 fiscal year was successful because marked improvements were made at selected parks while attendance and receipts continued to increase. This indicates that a greater burden was carried by the service without increased funds and facilities.

Public reception will be complete only when the Service can provide a complete park and outdoor recreation program for the people to enjoy.

Lewis G. Scoggin  
Director

FLORIDA BOARD OF PARKS AND HISTORIC MEMORIALS

Mrs. Harold D. Butts, Chairman "Lisnaroe", Ormond Beach, Florida	Region 4
M. Brooks Hayes, Jr., Vice Chairman Blountstown, Florida	Region 1
Elizabeth M. Towers, Secretary 3500 Richmond Street, Jacksonville, Florida	Region 2
Karl A. Bickel, Member 201 Broadway, Sarasota, Florida	Region 3
* Miles Collier, Member Everglades, Florida	Region 5

\* John D. Pennekamp resigned from the Board April 9, 1951  
Miles Collier was appointed to the Board April 11, 1951

## ACQUISITION

During the year two valuable areas were added to our park system. Little Talbot Island, approximately 2500 acres, was deeded to the Park Board by the State Road Board but a small portion of the proposed State Park, that lying west of Fort George Inlet and known as the Huguenot Memorial area, was retained by the Road Board.

The Internal Improvement Fund Trustees transferred to the Park Board a vast area of land and submerged land along the Overseas Highway which is proposed as the Florida Overseas Parkway, a unit in the State Park system.

The Noegel tract, 20 acres, was purchased for \$3000.00 as an addition to Suwannee River State Park and the McNary home, 2 acres, was purchased for \$8000.00 for Tomoka. The McNary home was the last interior holding to be acquired for blocking out Tomoka Park area.

### LAND ACQUISITION NEGOTIATIONS

Efforts were continued to complete acquisition of lands as follows:

Overseas Parkway. Requests were filed with the Overseas Road and Toll Bridge District and the State Road Board for certain lands along the Overseas Highway considered essential to creation of the proposed Overseas Parkway.

St. Joseph Peninsula. The area, which had been declared surplus to the needs of the Military establishments, was withdrawn from the surplus list at the request of the U. S. Air Force.

Cayo Costa Island. No action has been taken by the Federal Government on our application for this area of 1176.24 acres under Public Law 616.

Old Pensacola Forts. The National Emergency caused by the Korean War stopped all action on the part of the Navy to make these Forts available for State Park purposes.

McKenzie Lands - Manatee Springs State Park. We have been reassured that Mr. D. P. McKenzie is ready to deed about 200 acres to the Park Board as soon as he can get an abstract prepared.

## MAINTENANCE

### Major Building Repairs

O'Leno - New roofs and minor repairs to seventeen buildings;  
Hillsborough River State Park - New roofs and minor repairs to three buildings;  
Highlands Hammock - One new roof and termite damage repairs;  
Dade Memorial - New roof and minor repairs to one building;  
Torreya - Repainted Gregory Mansion;  
Fort Clinch State Park - Repainted refreshment building and rest rooms;  
Myakka River State Park - Painted kitchen and shower rooms in four cabins;  
Collier-Seminole - Repainted ranger residence;  
Oluisee - Repainted interior ranger's residence;  
Gold Head Branch - Added one room to ranger's residence.

### Other Major Repairs

O'Leno State Park - Repaired swimming facilities, rewired pump house and other lines; repaired water system, repaired storm damage to roads and trails.  
Hillsborough River State Park - Rewired picnic area, repaired privies; repaired storm damage to trees, roads, trails, waterfront. Painted and repaired 30 boats; stained all park signs.  
Highlands Hammock State Park - Repairs to dam drainage canals; repaired all bridges and catwalks; repaired storm damage to trees, roads, trails, reconditioned lawn; stained all park signs.  
Myakka River State Park - Repaired bridges, roads, fences, painted and repaired ten boats; repaired fireplaces.  
Gold Head Branch - Dredged swimming area; rebuilt furniture; repaired and replaced road culverts; repaired swimming facilities; repaired and painted boats; repaired storm damage to trees, power and telephone lines and roads; stained all park signs in northeast Florida.  
  
Ft. Clinch State Park - Repaired plumbing.  
Florida Caverns State Park - Reconditioned golf course greens and fairways; repaired trails and cave lighting system.  
St. Andrews State Park - Rebuilt power plant.

## NEW IMPROVEMENTS

Administration - Moved to new office.

Hillsborough River State Park - Constructed new bath house.  
Highlands Hammock - Constructed new camping area; SRD completed paving road.  
Hugh Taylor Birch - SRD paved road and parking area; new Garden Club Center; five cabanas erected.  
O'Leno - New pressure water system; new day camp area constructed.  
Gold Head Branch - Enlarged swimming area; removed old boat house; moved office and park entrance; established camping area.



#### New Improvements - (continued)

- Tomoka - Began construction of picnic area; boat dock, trails, combination building, water system.
- Bulow - Constructed ranger residence.
- New Smyrna - Constructed ranger residence.
- Florida Caverns State Park - Moved picnic area and installed 1500 feet water line; landscaped park entrance, golf course parking area, new picnic ground parking area; constructed road and interior park sign for park system; constructed furniture for other parks.
- Hugh Taylor Birch - Added new equipment to increase operations of refreshment building.
- Ft. Clinch - SRD paved roads and developed new drainage system.
- Constitution Monument - Landscaped monument area.
- Fort Pickens - Installed new water pumping system.
- Yellow Bluff - Erected **Two** flag poles.

#### GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND FIRE PROTECTION

This item, the largest maintenance item, covers daily cleaning and minor repairs to approximately a hundred buildings, miles of water and sewer, electric and telephone lines; repairs and maintenance of mowers, trucks, tractors, pumps, boats, fences, fire lines, drainage canals, roads and trails, picnic tables, fireplaces, garbage collection, mowing about 100 acres of finished and rough lawn and road shoulders; fire fighting; maintenance of tools and minor equipment.

#### NEW EQUIPMENT

- Administration - Calculator, mimeograph machine.
- Florida Caverns - 3/4 ton Ford pick-up, planer.
- Fort Pickens - Used Jeep, Electric pump.
- O'Leno - Electric pump and pressure tank.
- Gold Head Branch - Water pump and motor.
- Ft. Clinch - 1/2 ton Ford pick-up, refrigerator, water pump and pressure tank.
- Bulow - Power plant and household furnishings.
- Tomoka - 3/4 ton Ford pick-up, power plant, water pump.
- Hugh Taylor Birch - 3/4 ton pick-up, deep freeze, deep fryer, meat slicer  
five cabanas.
- Myakka - New Ford tractor and mower.
- Torreya - Two chlorinators.
- Natural Bridge - New mower.
- New Smyrna - New mower.

In addition to the above items, many other items of light equipment and tools were purchased.

### PLANNING

Overall detailed plans for two parks were completed during the fiscal year using funds secured from the Federal Government through the Improvement Commission. Cost of planning amounted to \$5,000 for Myakka River and \$10,000 for Hugh Taylor Birch. The time limit for planning expired before title could be cleared on the acquisition of Little Talbot Island causing the Federal Planning funds for this park to be withdrawn.

Master plans for all park properties were completed and a prospectus for the park system's complete development prepared to supplement the Park Board's appropriation request for 1951-1953.

Detailed plans were prepared for a new caretaker's residence located in Bulow State Monument, recreation facilities for Little Talbot Island, including one Negro area, and a picnic area for Tomoka State Park.

Preliminary plans were prepared for the development of Manatee Springs.

Plans were prepared through cooperation with the State Road Department for park roads in Little Talbot Island, Gold Head Branch, O'Leno, Hillsborough River, Hugh Taylor Birch and a general plan and report on the proposed Overseas Parkway.

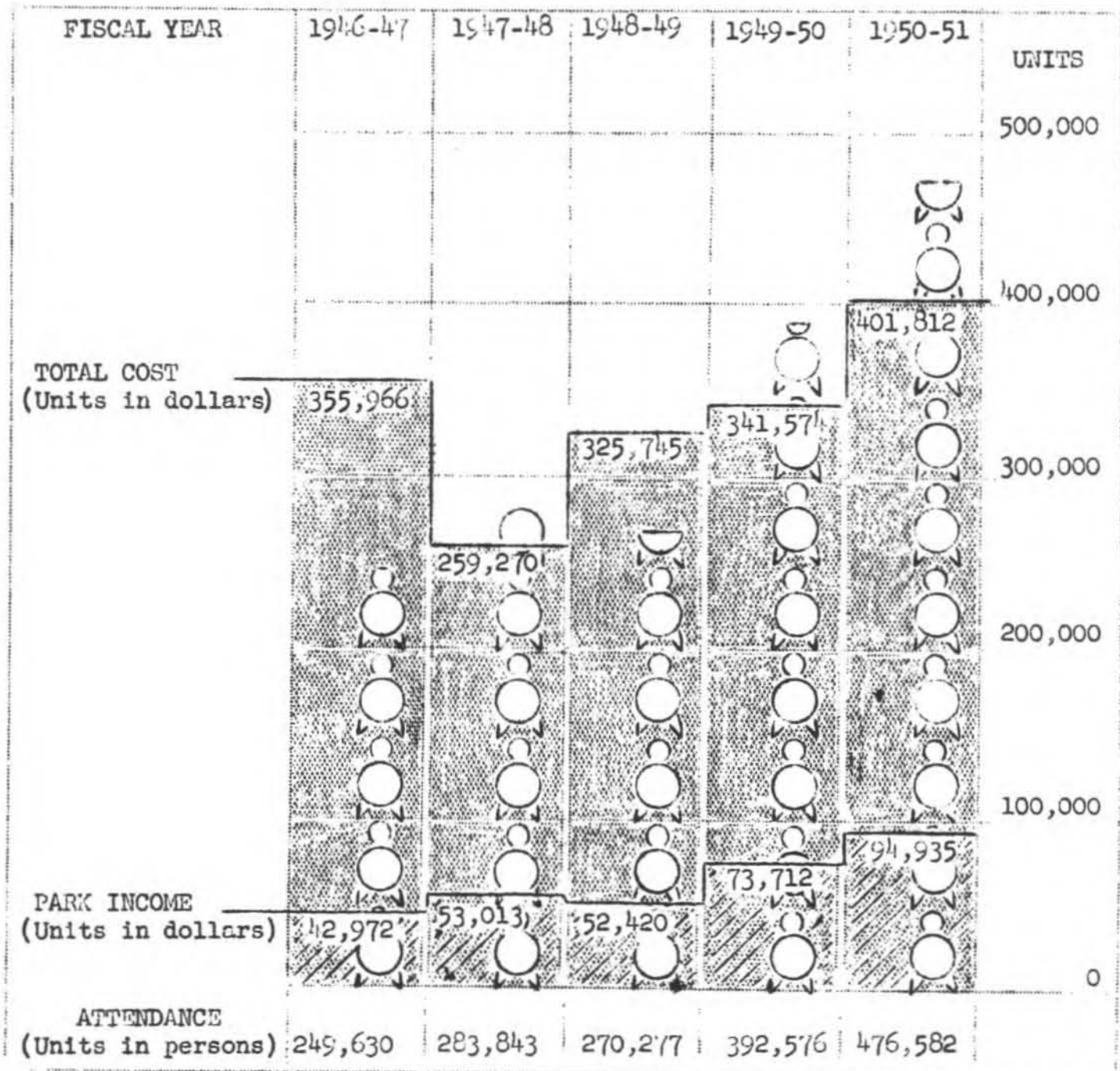
### FINANCING

In spite of promises from the Florida State Improvement Commission to cooperate with the Board no legal means has been discovered which will permit financing capital improvements by sale of revenue certificates. It has not been possible to borrow money from the Internal Improvement Fund Trustees nor get appropriations for the purpose of financing park development.

The 1951 legislative appropriation for State Parks was a great disappointment and coupled with rising costs the handicap placed upon the Service has been severe. The Legislature appropriated only \$550,000 for the 1951-53 biennium plus \$40,000., contingent upon donation of Killearn Gardens to the State, for the operation and maintenance of this property. It appropriated \$65,000 (special) for Highlands Hammock and \$40,000 (special) for Manatee Springs. The net results are a gain of \$100,000 in appropriation to meet a \$145,000 greater financial obligation.

The State Road Board budgeted \$518,540. for State Park road paving and \$540,000. for access roads but only a small amount of these funds were actually expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951. The balance of Road Board funds, budgeted for parks, has been requested for the next year and we have every reason to believe the State Road Board will cooperate.

# FIVE YEAR PROGRAM CHART



Each symbol represents 50,000 park visitors.

PARK INCOME represents the gross income derived from park operation.

TOTAL COST represents the total of all expenditures for all purposes, including appropriated funds and "PARK INCOME."

Note: Total Cost for 1946 - 47 includes \$75,000. expended for land acquisition by the Improvement Commission and \$45,000. released from the Governor emergency fund.



#### STATE PARKS IN OPERATION

Florida Caverns State Park	1,187 acres	Marianna
Fort Clinch State Park	1,086 acres	Fernandina
Gold Head Branch State Park	1,331 acres	Keystone Heights
Highlands Hammock State Park	3,800 acres	Sebring
Hillsborough River State Park	2,637 acres	Zephyrhills
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park	180 acres	Fort Lauderdale
Myakka River State Park	26,746.6 acres	Sarasota
O'Leno State Park	1,380 acres	High Springs

#### STATE PARKS PARTIALLY DEVELOPED

Torrey State Park	1,138 acres	Rock Bluff
Collier-Seminole State Park	6,423 acres	Royal Palm Hammock
St. Andrews State Park (**)	1,000.4 acres	Panama City
(242.40 acres in process of acquisition)		

#### SCIENTIFIC AREA

John F. Rollins Bird and Plant Sanctuary	150 acres	Fort George Island
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#### UNDEVELOPED STATE PARKS

Tomoka State Park	712.7 acres	Ormond
Anastasia State Park	852 acres	St. Augustine
Pan-American State Park	270 acres	Fort Lauderdale
Suwannee River State Park	1,826 acres	Ellaville
Jonathan Dickinson State Park	11,124 acres	Hobe Sound
Little Talbot Island State Park	2,500 acres	Jacksonville
DeSoto Beach State Park	216 acres	Titusville
Lake Griffin State Park	725 acres	Leesburg
Santa Rosa State Park	1,399 acres	Pensacola
Manatee Springs State Park	1,500 acres	Chiefland
Ribaut (An ocean front area)	139.27 acres	Flagler Beach
Pellicer Creek area (Hiram Faver)	496 acres	St. Johns County

#### PARKWAY

Florida Overseas Parkway - Acreage undertermined - Monroe County.  
(Internal Improvement Fund lands)

### HISTORIC MEMORIALS

Olustee Battlefield Memorial	5 acres	Olustee
Dade Memorial Park	40 acres	Bushnell
Bulow Ruins ( and Plantation)	109 acres	Ormond
Addison Blockhouse	5 acres	Ormond
Ormond's Tomb	9.3 acres	Ormond
Turtle Mound	16 acres	New Smyrna Beach
Historic Site (Sugar Mill Ruins)	17.35 acres	New Smyrna Beach
Yellow Bluff	2 acres	New Berlin
Gamble Mansion (Judah P. Benjamin Memorial)	5 acres	Ellenton
Madira Bickel Mound	10 acres	Terra Ceia Island
State Constitution Convention Memorial	12 acres	Port St. Joe
Confederate Monument	site	DeFuniak Springs
Battle of Natural Bridge Monument	6 acres	Woodville
Battle of Marianna Memorial	site	Marianna
Fort Pickens	1,658.6 acres	Santa Rosa Island
Muncillia House	8 acres	Fort George Island

### OPERATIONS

#### General

State Park operation is public service operation. During the year July 1950 to June 1951, approximately 476,000 persons visited the 37 Park and Historical areas. Our field staff of 63 employees plus a limited number of temporary help enabled our visitors to take advantage of their growing park facilities.

This past year we had in operation six refreshment pavilions, two bath-houses, five swimming areas, about 100 rowboats and canoes, two group camps, five day camps, fourteen cabins, five cabanas, eight picnic areas, miles of scenic trails, guided tours through caverns, nature trails, and historical memorials, as well as providing parking facilities and clean surroundings.

## RECREATION

The program of recreation in the State Parks of Florida for the fiscal year 1950-51 evidenced a tremendous gain over the previous half of the biennium with respect to the utilization of these areas for day camping, group camping, and other outdoor recreation activities. During this period 1,129 day campers and 2,220 group campers were entertained in the St. Andrews, O'Leno, Gold Head Branch Highlands Hammock, Hillsborough River and Hugh Taylor Birch State Parks.

County or municipal school boards and recreation departments provided the leadership, transportation and equipment in the day camping programs for the most part, while the Florida Park Service supplied the facilities, a limited amount of leadership and some equipment. The group camps were under the supervision of various church and youth agencies which rented the facilities of the O'Leno and Hugh Taylor Birch State Parks.

A total of 207 information letters concerning the recreational advantages of State Park areas were mailed to various churches, school authorities, civic clubs and youth agencies during the year just ended. Twelve talks on the topics of recreation and camping were given before civic clubs, university groups, teacher workshops, youth groups and school camp personnel during 1950-51, while 101 individual conferences were held with park, recreation, camping, youth agency, church and school leaders concerning matters of a recreational or camping nature. Approximately 140 school teachers were served in the four camp counselor training institutes which were conducted by the Florida Park Service, and ten other institutes or conferences were attended during this period.

Active assistance was given to all school day camping groups which utilized state park facilities in such matters as the preparation of program schedules, purchase of equipment, planning of special events, planning menus, and general camp administration. Assistance was also given to the Gulf Ridge and Northeast Florida Boy Scout Councils in their annual camporees, and 259 and 81 scouts were served in these outings, respectively.

One square dance was conducted at Highlands Hammock State Park for forty persons, while a social recreation program was planned and conducted for 265 members of the Florida State Librarians Association during their annual meeting in Leesburg. A campfire and social recreation program was conducted for the Women's Garden Club state-wide meeting which took place at O'Leno State Park.

Assistance was also given to the National Recreation Association during the Camp Helen Counselor Training Institute; to the Florida Section of the American Camping Association in its drive for increased membership; to the General Extension Division of the University of Florida; and, to five colleges or individuals who were making surveys of camping or recreation problems.

Through the camp counselor training institutes which were sponsored by the Florida Park Service a number of the State Park Rangers were acquainted with general camp administration problems, and a tremendous improvement of public relations with all Park stages was evidenced during the 1951 camping season.

## Recreation (continued)

Thus the year 1950-51 saw over 4,169 participations or camp days of school or recreational type camping, at least 12 weeks of group camping, and numerous other outdoor recreation programs which were conducted in the State Parks of Florida. It marked the beginning of a potentially wonderful contribution to the youth of Florida, and every effort will be made to inspire these outdoor groups on to even finer programs, both in number of campers served and the program of activities of their respective groups, during the 1951-52 season.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

The activities of the archaeological section of the Florida Park Service during the fiscal year were more varied than usual, with, however, some decrease in field work occasioned by limitations in the budget; all of the labor funds available being in the revolving fund from the preceding fiscal year.

All labor funds were expended on Amelia Island in July and August. The plaza lot of Fernandina Oldtown, owned by the Florida Park Service, was partially excavated, and portions of the outlines of Fort San Carlos were recorded. In addition an archaeological survey of the island was undertaken in which over 40 sites were discovered. The only other field work of the year, carried out without labor, was the testing of a badly damaged burial mound at Homosassa and two test pits at the important Crystal River site in Citrus County. These latter excavations have helped clarify the archaeological situation of the central Gulf coast.

Emphasis was placed this year on the compilation of historic references to certain State Park areas as a necessary preliminary to interpretive planning. Amelia Island, Fort George Island, Yellow Bluff, the Addison Blockhouse, Olustee and Dade were areas particularly stressed. Preliminary planning for interpretation was undertaken for Olustee, Bulow, Madira Bickel Mound, Dade, and Fort San Carlos (Fernandina). In some of these cases texts and plans for markers were completed, in others the work is still in progress. An archaeological exhibit was installed at Florida Caverns State Park.

Laboratory work included the preservation of iron specimens from various historic sites previously excavated, and the processing of materials obtained in the present years work.

The largest publication of the year, written by staff members of the Florida Park Service and published by the University of Florida Press, was the book Here They Once Stood, a joint historical-archaeological study of the Spanish missions of the Tallahassee region. Only slightly less significant were the articles on the Lake Jackson, Safety Harbor, and John's Island sites. Seven shorter articles were also published, as were several book reviews. Completed manuscripts awaiting publication include the definitive studies on Madira Bickel Mound, the Addison Blockhouse, and Amelia Island.



## Archaeology (continued)

On at least 15 occasions staff members were called upon to speak to various groups. These appearances were made in the following cities: Tallahassee, Gainesville, Sarasota, St. Petersburg, Miami, Daytona Beach, Ormond, St. Augustine, and Fernandina. The groups addressed included civic clubs, historical societies, garden clubs, teacher groups, scientific meetings, and university classes.

Requests for information were more numerous than ever. In many instances these called for direct answers by members of the staff, in other instances materials were mailed in cooperation with the public relations organization of the Service. Several requests that the Service investigate sites before they were destroyed had to be turned down because of lack of funds.

Relations with the press have continued good, and the majority of news stories were accurate. Recognition of efforts of the section by professionals continues. Favorable reviews on publications have appeared from California to England.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY

This activity consisted of writing and preparation of illustrated and descriptive booklets and folders, maps, and brochures, published by the Park Service, other agencies, and outlets;

Answering and servicing of replies for special information to prospective tourists, students, school teachers, and persons putting on special programs;

Maintaining contacts with and supplying special information and literature to travel bureaus, oil companies, chambers of commerce, newspapers and periodicals, and automobile clubs;

Writing and issuing of news releases to weeklies, dailies, radio stations, and periodicals of Florida; folders and a summary release were sent to leading newspapers in the United States and the 100 leading magazines in the United States, as possible material for travel editors.

Preparation of exclusive articles on specific subjects requested by newspapers and magazines;

Addition to a library of photographic negatives and prints, covering various activities and interests in State Parks and Historic Memorials, was continued;

Supplying photographs to various agencies, syndicates, feature writers, newspapers, magazines and book publishers for illustrative purposes;

Periodic articles, news briefs, were mailed to trade publications; such as Recreation Magazine, Parks and Recreation, Park Maintenance; and Planning and Civic Comment;

Literature distributed for this period included: 100,000 folders entitled "Florida's State Parks Invite You", 5,000 leaflets on Florida Caverns entitled "Florida's Nature-made Wonderland"; 2,000 leaflets, entitled "Nature's Tonic", giving a summary of facilities in all State Parks, 2,000 reprints of an article entitled "Highlands Hammock State Park"; and 2,000 reprints of an article entitled "Bulowville".

Public Relations and Publicity (continued).

The Program of putting typical State Park signs on the highways and in the several parks and the erection of State Park directional signs at strategic highway intersections was continued.

National and state-wide public relations of an official nature were made by Board members and the State Park Director.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1951

REVENUE:

TRUST FUND

Balance June 30, 1950		\$10,340.50	
Revolving Fund, H. Hamm. S. P.		300.00	
Receipts, Mdse. Sales	38,182.35		
Receipts, Fees, Rentals etc.	55,209.88		
# Receipts, Transfer	2,022.09		
Receipts, Cancel of Warrant over 6 Mo.	20.63		
Total Receipts		95,434.95	
Total Revenue, Trust Fund			106,075.45

APPROPRIATIONS-GENERAL REVENUE

Balance, Sal. June 30, 1950	445.12		
For Salaries	165,000.00		
Total Approp. for Salaries		165,445.12	
Balance Exp. June 30, 1950	6.40		
For Expense	132,500.00		
Total Approp. for Expense		132,506.40	

EMERGENCY FUND-GENERAL REVENUE

Release For Expense	3,000.00		
Total Emergency Fund		3,000.00	
Total Revenue, Gen. Rev.			300,951.52

GRAND TOTAL REVENUE

\$407,026.97

EXPENDITURES, RESERVES & BALANCES:

Salaries	180,434.30		
Wages	20,882.32		
Professional Services	2,344.26		
Contractual Services	56,942.86		
Commodities	38,879.31		
Current Charges	7,344.12		
Current Obligations	1,392.62		
Capital Outlay	49,447.47		
Non Operating	44,144.60		
Total Expenditures		401,811.86	
Unreleased Reserve-Expense		3,410.00	
Released Balance-Trust	541.50		
Released Balance-Gen. Rev. Salaries	1.23		
* Released Balance-Gen. Rev. Expense	962.38		
Revolving Fund, Highlands Hammock	300.00		
Total Balance		1,805.11	

GRAND TOTAL, EXPENDITURES,  
RESERVES & BALANCES

\$ 407,026.97

# Transfers from other State Agencies

\* Certified Obligations-Paid After July 1st.

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURES  
BY  
PARKS AND DEPARTMENTS

	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>
ADMINISTRATION	45,930.38	42,051.74	87,982.12
HIGHLANDS HAMMOCK	16,615.00	9,772.80	26,387.80
HILLSBOROUGH RIVER	15,959.96	22,550.49	38,510.45
FORT CLINCH	5,914.67	6,021.94	11,936.61
TORREYA	2,340.00	2,326.07	4,666.07
GOLD HEAD BRANCH	15,054.91	19,493.64	34,548.55
MYAKKA RIVER	12,311.51	11,402.69	23,714.20
TOMOKA	1,880.24	14,708.90	16,589.14
FLORIDA CAVERNS	18,218.96	17,909.46	36,128.42
SUWANNEE RIVER		3,001.60	3,001.60
O'LENO	7,459.92	8,870.70	16,330.62
HUGH TAYLOR BIRCH	16,703.75	36,568.24	53,271.99
COLLIER-SEMINOLE	1,980.00	876.89	2,856.89
LITTLE TALBOT		35.00	35.00
ARCHAEOLOGY	8,100.00	1,027.49	9,127.49
ST. ANDREWS	1,200.00	803.17	2,003.17
JONATHAN DICKINSON	3,640.00	2,244.47	5,884.47
SANTA ROSA	2,400.00	1,552.74	3,952.74
ANASTASIA		652.60	652.60
JUDAH P. BENJAMIN-GAMBLE MANSION	1,200.00	1,147.32	2,347.32
DADE BATTLEFIELD MEMORIAL	1,800.00	955.10	2,755.10
NATURAL BRIDGE		814.71	814.71
OLUSTEE	600.00	345.11	945.11
NEW SMYRNA RUINS	400.00	5,419.35	5,819.35
CONSTITUTION MONUMENT		6,341.33	6,341.33
FLAGLER BEACH		11.40	11.40
JOHN F. ROLLINS BIRD SANCTUARY	275.00	400.94	675.94
BULOW MONUMENT	450.00	3,947.43	4,397.43
YELLOW BLUFF		124.24	124.24
TOTAL	180,434.30	221,377.56	401,811.86